March Comes in Like a Lion

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SCANLATED BY BE WITH YOU SCANS (2012/07)
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Chapter 23

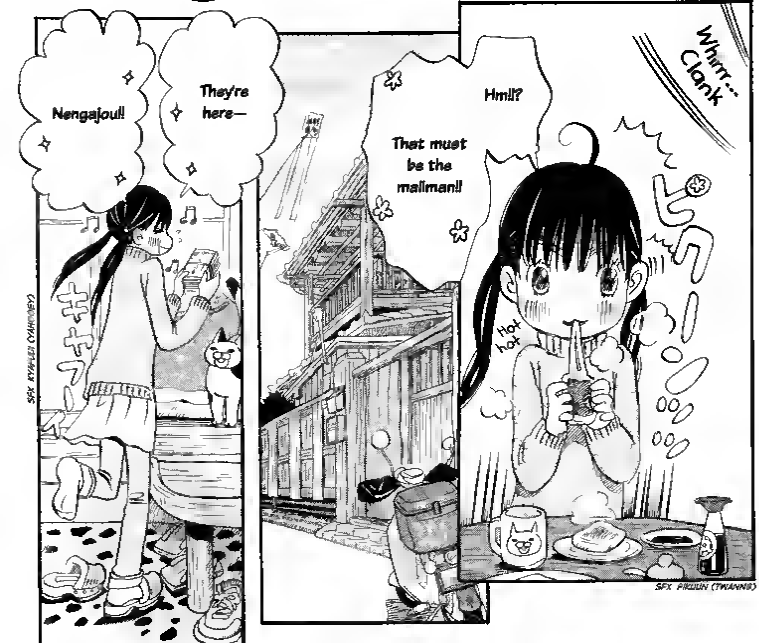
Year In

SFX HAMABARA (PANICKING)
S SORRY!!
HEY
WHO PUT STICKERS ON MOMMY'S DRAWERS?!
REALLY! THIS IS VERY HARD TO PEEL OFF, YOU KNOW!
Geez
Hmph Hmph
SORRY~

MOM
CHIHIRO
...
A DREAM
Rei-chan, good morning ☆
ARE YOU AWAKE, REI-CHAN?
ONEI-CHAN IS CALLING US FOR BREAKFAST
GOOD MORNING
ARE YOU STILL FEVERISH?
I THINK IT'S GONE DOWN A LOT.
I SHOULD BE OKAY NOW.

NEWSPAPER: NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS
MARUEI (DEPARTMENT STORE)
FUKUBUKURO
GOOD MORNING.
MORNING
HAPPY NEW YEAR.
AH
A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YA.
KIRIYAMA-KUN, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME OMOCHI? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH IT?
HEY, MOMO, I CAN'T READ THE NEWSPAPER IF YOU'RE LIKE THIS.
SFX: HAA (SIGH)
SFX: BASA (RUSTLE)
There are so many ads in the newspaper!
Wow!!
SFX: ZUSSHIRI (SLUMP)
TELEVISION: NEW YEAR SPECIAL
AH, I GUESS I'LL HAVE CHEESE TOO...
Momo wants cheese!!
I want sweet soy sauce☆

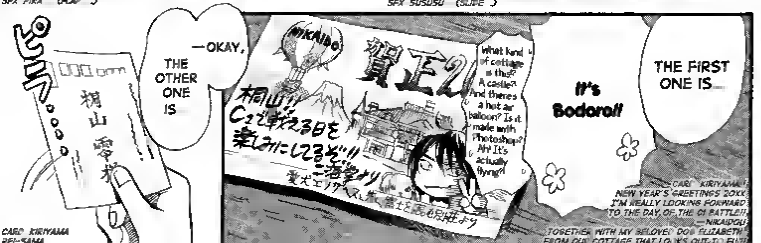
Hm!
HMM... YOU'RE STILL A BIT FEVERISH...
LET ME SEE?
AH...
Your feet will be cold if you're only wearing your pajamas...
COME, GET IN THE KOTATSU!
AND THEN TAKE SOME MEDICINE
WELL, FOR NOW, JUST HAVE SOME FOOD


Nengajou!!
They're here—
Hm!?
That must be the maliman!!
Whmm... Clank
Hot hot
SFX KYUUUU (CHANNEL)
SFX FUUUN (TWANNG)

SFX: FUKU FUKU (OLLIFE FLUFF)
AH, THERE'S ONE FOR MOMO TOO
JII-CHAN'S,
ONEI-CHAN'S,
What?
Really?
Hey?
What?
What?
What?
What?
SFX: FUN FUN (HMPH HMPH)
MINE,
MINE,
THIS ONE'S MINE,
ONEI-CHAN'S,
I wonder if we'll win anything from the Otoshidama-nenga ☆
Yuppp☆
HOW IS IT? DID WE GET A LOT?
SFX: NAFU NAFU (OLLIFE FLUFF)
I DON'T THINK THERE WOULD BE ANY
AH, NO...
Ohh right!! There might be some at Rae-chan's place too!! Nengajou!!
OH, MOMO RECEIVED SOME TOO? THAT'S WONDERFUL!
From the nursery school and from the pediatrician
Yeah☆

20 minutes later...

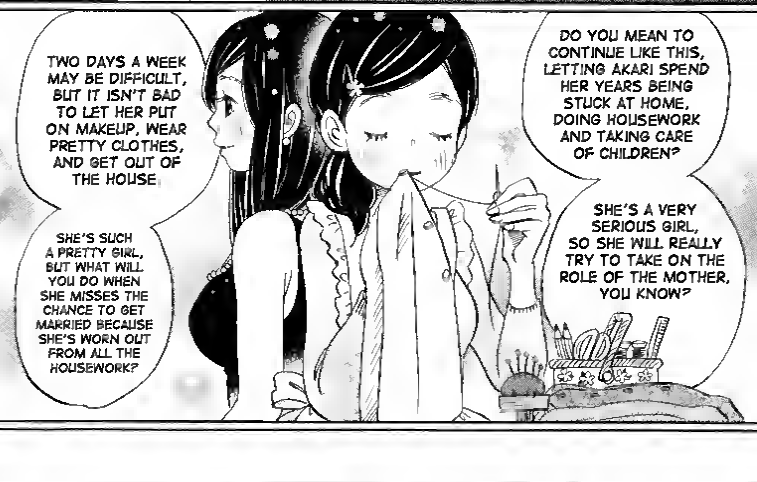
I'll go get 'em for you!!
I'm taking your key.
You wait here ☆ I'll be back really soon!
AH! WAIT! D-DON'T!
THAT WOULD JUST MAKE ME STICK OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB!
SFX SHUN SHUN SHUN
SFX DADAA (THUD THUD)

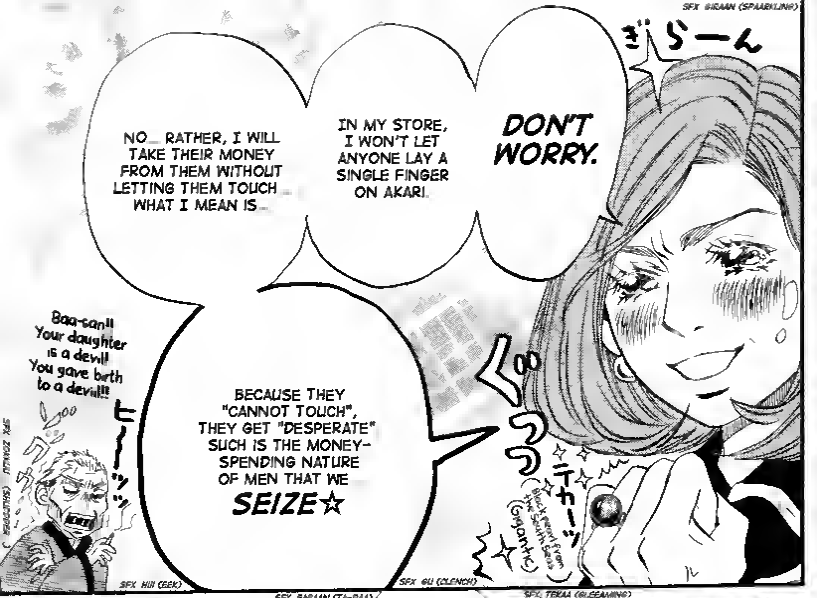

—OKAY, THE OTHER ONE IS
0001 am
桐山零様
CARD: KIRIYAMA-KUN-SAMA
THE FIRST ONE IS...
It's Bodoro!!
MIKADO
賀正
What kind of cottage is that? A castle? And there's a hot air balloon? Is it made with Photoshop? Ahh It's actually flying!!
桐山!! 今年も3日を楽しみにしてるぜ!! 一海より
CARD: KIRIYAMA NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS 20XX I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY OF THE CI RATTLE!! —NAGATOU TOGETHER WITH MY BELOVED DOG ELIZABETH FROM OUR COTTAGE THAT LOOKS OUT TO FUJI!

SFX: ZUBAAAA! (SUH—BAAM!!)
CARD TOP: JAPAN SHOGI ASSOCIATION WISHING YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR
ずばーむっっ
日本将棋連盟
謹春のお慶びを申し上げます
日本将棋連盟会長 第十六世名人
JAPAN SHOGI ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN 16TH HONINBOU MEIJIN
神宮寺崇徳
JINGUUJI TAKANORI
バショウカジキ[190cm]
PEライン3号-200m
リーダー80ポンド
マレーシア沖にて…
CARD BOTTOM LEFT: SAILFISH (190 CM)
PE 3 FISHING LINE – 200 M
LEADER – 80 LB
IN THE OPEN SEAS OF MALAYSIA
A fishing ojii-chan?
WHO... IS THIS?
Chair-man...
Um...
He really went and did it...!
I'LL SAY THIS FIRST HE WAS REALLY STRONG, YOU KNOW? THOUGH HE'S ALWAYS BEEN RATHER OFFBEAT.
DESPITE HIS APPEARANCE, HE DID TAKE THE MEIJIN TITLE SEVEN TIMES. WAIT, WHY AM I DEFENDING THIS PERSON!?
What happened to shogi?
Sailfish? Malaysia?
SFX: BARA BARA (GRATTLE...)
Goood afternoon—
Happy New Year! It's me, Mieaki-oba-chan—
ガラガラ
BAR: NEW YEAR'S INTERVIEWS

MOMO
HINA
THERE ☆
Fanks berry muchie! Kya kya
Whee! What should I buy?
K-yaa Thank you very much!
Ohh, right! Otoshidama ☆
Misaki-obachan, look at Mono's nengayou!!
Pheeew- I feel so relieved!
BEING AT THE IN-LAWS' HAVE MADE MY SHOULDERS ALL STIFF!
AH— IT FEELS GOOD TO BE HOME!
AKARI, TOO
Eh? Me too?
HERE, OTOU-SAN
Ohh, are you sure, Oba-sama?
OBA-CHAN, PLEASE HAVE SOME TEA
OH MY THANKS☆ WHAT A GOOD GIRL, HINA-CHAN
YOU WERE SO GOOD AT IT
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU LIKE TO PRETEND YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN ALL ABOUT APPEAR-ANCES
SFX: NOM CHUP!
IT'S ALL RIGHT— IT WAS A WHILE AGO, BUT DIDN'T YOU BRING ISSA-SAN AND SMITH-SAN TO OUR STORE? WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU AGAIN☆
Hehe Hehe
Ko-chins
EH? EH? EVEN ME? HOW CAN I ACCEPT...?
I HEARD THAT YOU GOT SICK ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, SO YOU GOT KIDNAPPED BY AKARI HERE?
MR SHOGI.
Even though it's not much☆
—OH RIGHT, I SHOULD GIVE ONE TO YOU TOO☆
SFX: BIKKA (FLASH)
HAPPY NEW YEAR.
MISAKI IS HERE TO VISIT YOU.
MOM, MIKAKO.
HERE.
—THEN, THESE ARE...
Please watch over me this year, too.

SIRN DURING AN EARTHQUAKE PUT THE FIRE OUT!!
DAD, MY STORE ISN'T SOME DANGEROUS PLACE
EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT BIG, IT'S A REFINED PLACE MOST OF THE CUSTOMERS ARE REGULARS IT'S MY PRECIOUS CASTLE
EVEN IF YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT
Hmmm...
I NEVER AGREED TO THIS YOU UNDER-STAND?
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS BE BOTHERING FAMILY MEMBERS RECRUIT SOME NEW PEOPLE
DON'T INVOLVE AKARI IN YOUR SKETCHY BUSINESS
—HEY, MISAKI YOU STILL WANT AKARI TO HELP YOU OUT THIS YEAR?


TWO DAYS A WEEK MAY BE DIFFICULT, BUT IT ISN'T BAD TO LET HER PUT ON MAKEUP, WEAR PRETTY CLOTHES, AND GET OUT OF THE HOUSE
SHE'S SUCH A PRETTY GIRL, BUT WHAT WILL YOU DO WHEN SHE MISSES THE CHANCE TO GET MARRIED BECAUSE SHE'S WORN OUT FROM ALL THE HOUSEWORK?
DO YOU MEAN TO CONTINUE LIKE THIS, LETTING AKARI SPEND HER YEARS BEING STUCK AT HOME, DOING HOUSEWORK AND TAKING CARE OF CHILDREN?
SHE'S A VERY SERIOUS GIRL, SO SHE WILL REALLY TRY TO TAKE ON THE ROLE OF THE MOTHER, YOU KNOW?


SFX: KIRAAN (SPARKLING)
DON'T WORRY.
IN MY STORE, I WON'T LET ANYONE LAY A SINGLE FINGER ON AKARI.
NO... RATHER, I WILL TAKE THEIR MONEY FROM THEM WITHOUT LETTING THEM TOUCH. WHAT I MEAN IS...
BECAUSE THEY "CANNOT TOUCH", THEY GET "DESPERATE". SUCH IS THE MONEY-SPENDING NATURE OF MEN THAT WE SEIZE☆
Baa-san!! Your daughter is a devil! You gave birth to a devil!!!
SFX: HII (EEK!)
SFX: GU (CLENCH)
SFX: TEKKA (BLEACHING)

SFX: PAPAAN (TA-DAA)
WOW, SO AMAZING!! YOU'RE HARDCORE! YOU EVEN MADE OSECHI!?
AND IN MODERN STYLE! IT LOOKS REALLY DELICIOUS.
OUR GOAL WAS TO CREATE A DELICIOUS NEW YEAR'S DISH.
HINA AND I DESIGNED IT TOGETHER. WE GATHERED ALL THE THINGS REPRESENTING GOOD OMENS.
HAVE SOME OF THE MEAL HINA AND I MADE TOGETHER.
OBA-SAMA, WILL YOU STAY FOR DINNER?
OH MY THEN, I'LL TAKE YOU UP ON THAT OFFER. MY HUSBAND WENT TO WATCH SOCCER ANYWAY.

FOR BETTER LUCK WITH MONEY, WE SHOULD HAVE GOLD-COLOURED KINTON, RIGHT?
FOR CHILDREN TO GROW PROPERLY, WE SHOULD HAVE PORK AND BEANS, RIGHT?
USUALLY, IF WE BOUGHT BOTH RED AND WHITE FISH PASTE, WE'D NEVER FINISH IT, SO WE MADE POUNDED FISH CAKE, ALTERNATING RED AND WHITE BALLS ON A SKEWER KIND OF LIKE DANGO, RIGHT?
TO PRAY FOR OJII-CHAN'S LONGEVITY, WE SHOULD HAVE MINI HAMBURGER TURTLES, RIGHT?
BURDOCK BEEF ROLLS, RIGHT?
IN ORDER TO STAY ROOTED... WE HAVE
FOR BETTER PROSPECTS, WE SHOULD HAVE KINPIRA LOTUS ROOTS, RIGHT?
I tried cutting wieners into the shape of a fish ☆
Look~
Look~
And then of course there are datemaki and sweet nishiki-tamago...
Osechi... Right... They're all filled with wishes ..
And then bubble gum, okay?
Put some spaghetti in too, okay?
NYA~ YUM
MIKAKO AND OBAA-CHAN USED TO WORK HARD TO MAKE OSECHI, TOO.
SO AMAZING, YOU TWO!
Person who only ate.
SEE YOU... (TOMORROW...)

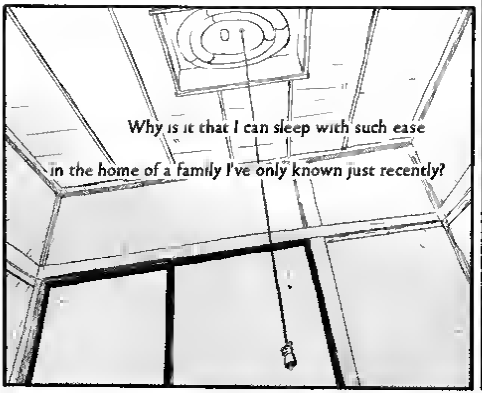
THE FEELING OF "WE'RE FINALLY DONE!!" OR "WOW!!☆".
—I CAN STILL REMEMBER THE SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT WE HAD WHEN WE REALLY DID FILL IT UP...
HOW TO SAY THIS... IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE "I MUST FILL IT UP!!"
JUST LOOKING AT THIS OJUUBAKO, I CAN'T HELP IT...
We did it☆
Whee☆
SFX: KIRAKIRA (SPARKLE)
AH—
THE "SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT" AND "HASSLE" GO HAND IN HAND...
...Only after conquering the hassle can one truly possess...
I UNDER-STAND...
IT'S INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT TO ACHIEVE THAT "SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT" ON TOP OF YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE.
EXACTLY!!
I REALLY CAN UNDER-STAND, YOU KNOW—
Right??
SFX: FUU (WHEW)
I'LL BE BACK! LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!
ALL RIGHT!
THANKS FOR HAVING ME OVER!

HINA, MOMO, COULD YOU TAKE YOUR BATHS?
OH NO! IT'S THIS LATE ALREADY?!
ボーン ボーン
Onee-chan will wash the dishes...!!!
—OH RIGHT, THEN, KIRIYAMA-KUN,
THIS SPACE?
WE NEED THIS SPACE RIGHT NOW, SO COULD YOU GO TO THE SECOND FLOOR?
SFX: GARARA (RATTLING)
SFX: BOON BOON BOON (GOONG GOONG GOONG)
After opening the living room window, a bathroom appears!!
And there isn't even a changing room!!!
RIGHT HERE.
ニヤニヤ
BUT THE TRUTH IS, THE KAWAMOTO BATH IS ..
YES IT MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN THIS,
EHH!?
WHAT THE HELL!?
—BUT, AS THE FAMILY GREW, WE ADDED THIS BATHROOM IN OUR COURTYARD.
A LONG TIME AGO, WE HAD NO BATH, SO OUR FAMILY WOULD GO TO THE RIVERBANK.

GOOD NIGHT!
SORRY, REI-CHAN
Rei-chan, don't look, okaaay? ☆
Ah.
No, I'm the one who should say sorry.
Change of clothes
Towel
G-good night...
Ah. ah....
SINCE WE'RE MOSTLY WOMEN HERE, WE DID WANT TO BUILD A CHANGING ROOM,
BUT IF WE DID BUILD ONE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE ANY COURTYARD LEFT. PLUS, THAT WOULD COST A LOT OF MONEY...
—HOWEVER, IT'S A BIT TROUBLESOME WHEN A GUEST COMES OVER...
HERE

I... I never knew...
THIS FAMILY IS REALLY SOMETHING...
S-s-
Scared me to death...

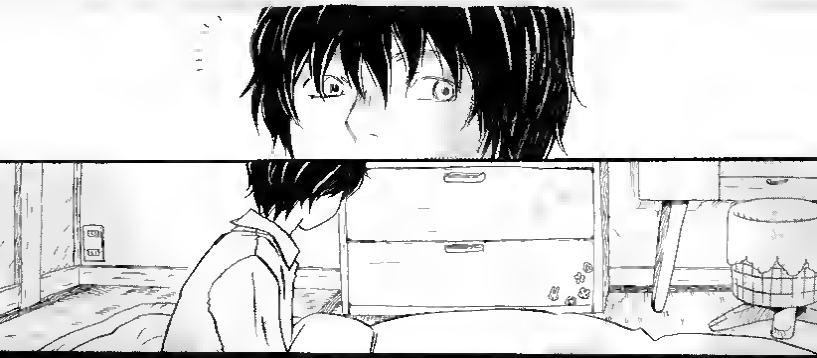
I'VE TAKEN MY MEDICINE, SO...
NOW THEN,



Why do I
feel so peaceful
when I'm here?

Why did I have such a long-forgotten dream?

Why.



In this old house,

I feel like time, everyone, everything
and even myself,
are all quietly drawn into its embrace, dozing off.
–And just like that, I fell asleep
a sleep that was so deep and peaceful
I don't know how long it's been since I'd last slept like this...
Chapter 23 end

PAGE 033

Otoshidama are small decorated envelopes containing money, customarily given to children. The amount of money can vary greatly between families or the age of the recipient.

PAGE 035

Osechi, shortened from osechi-ryouri, are a special selection of dishes associated with New Year celebrations. There are many variations of osechi, differing by region across Japan.

PAGE 036

Kinpira is a Japanese cooking technique of sautéing and simmering. It features soy sauce and mirin and is most commonly used to cook root vegetables, seaweed, or tofu.

Kinton is a dish of sweet potatoes and sweetened chestnuts.

Datemaki is a sweet rolled omelette mixed with fish paste or mashed shrimp.

Nishiki-tamago is an egg roulade. The separated yolks symbolize gold, and the egg whites represent silver.

PAGE 037

Juubako are sets of tiered lacquered boxes similar to bento boxes for more formal, traditional occasions.

PAGE 038

In Japanese homes, toilets and barhs are typically separated into different rooms and may be in entirely different areas.

After opening the living room window... a bathroom appears!
And there isn't even a changing room!!
RIGHT HERE!
BUT THE TRUTH IS, THE KAMAMOTO BATH IS
YES. IT MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN THIS.
WHAT THE HELL!?

BE WITH YOU SCANS NOTES

PAGE 028

MOCHI is a glutinous rice cake eaten year-round, but especially during New Year's.

FUKUBUKURO is a "lucky" mystery bag of goods containing random items sold at substantial discounts on New Year's.

PAGE 029

A **KOTATSU** is a low table with a heavy blanket skirt and an electric heater underneath. They are often the centre of family life in homes during cold months.

NENGAJOU are New Year's postcards. The Japanese mail nengajou to friends and relatives, similar to the Western custom of sending Christmas cards.

PAGE 030

OTOSHIDAMA-NENGA is short for "Otoshidama-Tsuki Nenga Hagaki". On the back of Japan Post's popular prepaid blank nengajou postcards are lottery numbers, the prizes for which are often stamps.